

REMARKS UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

Formal Matters

Claims 13-26 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-12 are cancelled and new claims 13-26 are added.

The cancellation of claims is done without prejudice to renewal, without intent to acquiesce to any rejection, and without intent to surrender any subject matter encompassed by the canceled claims. Applicants expressly reserve the right to pursue any canceled subject matter in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Support for the newly added claims is found in the original claims and throughout the specification and the drawings, particularly on p. 6, lines 16-19; p. 18, lines 20-28; and p. 35, lines 6- p. 36, line 19. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the application in view of the amendments and remarks made herein.

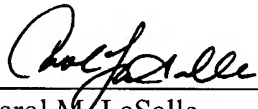
Conclusion

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CNVG-005US3CON3.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 10/21/03

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